

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING : 27 February 2017

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(AE17/230) - Student Visas - Postgraduate student research sector - Programme 2.3: Visas

Senator Carr, Kim (L&CA) written:

In terms of the postgraduate student research sector:

- What have been the countries of origin of visa's lodged and granted by month in 2016-17 to date?
- What were the median processing times for student primary visas in the postgraduate research sector by month in 2015, 2016 and 2017?
- How does this compare to other sectors?
- In QON SE16/099 answer 7 you say you were taking into account the impact on research projects of delays in processing postgraduate research visas. How were you taking this into account and what actions did you take to mitigate this?

Answer:

1. What have been the countries of origin of visa's lodged and granted by month in 2016-17 to date?
2. What were the median processing times for student primary visas in the postgraduate research sector by month in 2015, 2016 and 2017?
3. How does this compare to other sectors?

Tables 1 and 2 provide the countries of origin for Student visa (subclass 500) lodgments (Table 1) and grants (Table 2) in the Postgraduate Research sector by month for the 2016-17 programme year between 1 July 2016 to 28 February 2017.

Table 3 provides the median processing times for Student (postgraduate sector) visas by month for 2015, 2016 and 2017 with a comparison against the other sectors. The time taken to finalise an application varies based on a number of factors including the completeness of the application lodged, how promptly applicants respond to any requests from the Department and additional assessments in relation to health, character and national security requirements.

4. In QON SE16/099 answer 7 you say you were taking into account the impact on research projects of delays in processing postgraduate research visas. How were you taking this into account and what actions did you take to mitigate this?

The Department continues to work with other agencies to improve processes as a priority. The Department also engages with education providers who have students affected by the delays in the postgraduate research sector.

Table 1: Countries of origin for lodgment of Student (postgraduate sector) visas by travel document country and month for the period 1 July 2016 to 28 February 2017

Month	Travel document country
July 2016	Argentina; Bangladesh; Belgium; Bhutan; Brazil; Bulgaria; Cambodia; Canada; Chile; China, Peoples Republic of (excl SARs); Colombia; Croatia; Dominican Republic; Egypt; Eritrea; Estonia; Ethiopia; France; Germany, Fed Republic of; Ghana; Hong Kong (SAR of the PRC); Hungary; India; Indonesia; Iran; Israel; Italy; Japan; Jordan; Kenya; Korea, South; Kuwait; Malaysia; Mexico; Nepal, Netherlands, Kingdom of The; Nigeria; Pakistan; Peru; Philippines; Poland; Portugal; Russian Federation; Saudi Arabia; Serbia; Singapore; Slovakia; Solomon Islands, South Africa; Spain; Sri Lanka; Syrian Arab Republic; Taiwan; Tanzania; Thailand; Tunisia; Turkey; Uganda; Ukraine; United Kingdom; United States of America; Venezuela; Vietnam; Zimbabwe
August 2016	Bangladesh; Belgium; Bhutan; Botswana; Brazil; Cambodia; Canada; Chile; China, Peoples Republic of (excl SARs); Colombia; Croatia; Czech Republic; Ecuador; Egypt; Estonia; Ethiopia; Fiji; France; Georgia; Germany, Fed Republic of; Ghana; Grenada; Guyana; Hong Kong (SAR of the PRC); India; Indonesia; Iran; Ireland, Republic of; Israel; Italy; Japan; Jordan; Kenya; Korea, South; Kuwait; Lao Peoples Dem Republic; Libya; Malaysia; Mexico; Mongolia; Myanmar; Nepal; Netherlands, Kingdom of The; Nigeria; Norway; Oman; Pakistan; Palestinian Authority; Philippines; Poland; Portugal, Russian Federation; Rwanda; Saudi Arabia; Serbia; Singapore; Somalia; South Africa; Spain; Sri Lanka; Sudan; Sweden; Switzerland; Taiwan; Thailand; Turkey; Uganda; Ukraine; United Kingdom; United States of America; Uruguay; Venezuela; Vietnam; Yemen, Republic of
September 2016	Argentina; Austria; Bangladesh; Bhutan; Brazil; Cameroon; Canada; Chile; China, Peoples Republic of (excl SARs); Colombia; Croatia; Cyprus; Denmark; Egypt; Eritrea; Ethiopia; Finland; France; Germany, Fed Republic of; Ghana; Greece; Hong Kong (SAR of the PRC); India; Indonesia; Iran; Iraq; Ireland, Republic of; Italy; Japan; Jordan; Kenya; Korea, South; Kuwait; Malawi; Malaysia; Mexico; Mongolia; Mozambique; Myanmar; Nepal; Netherlands, Kingdom of The; Nigeria; Pakistan; Peru; Philippines; Romania; Russian Federation; Saudi Arabia; Sierra Leone; Singapore; Solomon Islands; South Africa; Spain; Sri Lanka; Switzerland; Syrian Arab Republic; Taiwan; Thailand; Turkey; Uganda; Ukraine; United Kingdom; United States of America; Uzbekistan; Vietnam; Zimbabwe
October 2016	Argentina; Bangladesh; Brazil; Cameroon; Canada; Chile, China, Peoples Republic of (excl SARs); Colombia; Congo, Dem Republic of The; Croatia; Ecuador; Egypt; Ethiopia; Fiji; France; Germany, Fed Republic of; Ghana; Greece; Hong Kong (SAR of the PRC); India; Indonesia; Iran; Iraq; Ireland, Republic of; Israel; Italy; Japan; Jordan; Kenya; Korea, South; Libya; Malaysia; Mauritius; Mexico; Mongolia; Morocco; Nepal, Netherlands, Kingdom of The; Nigeria; Norway; Oman; Pakistan; Papua New Guinea; Peru; Philippines; Poland; Russian Federation; Saudi Arabia; Serbia; Sierra Leone; Singapore; South Africa; Spain; Sri Lanka; Taiwan; Thailand; Turkey; United Kingdom; United States of America; Vietnam; Zimbabwe
November 2016	Austria; Bangladesh; Belize; Bhutan; Brazil; Canada; Chile; China, Peoples Republic of (excl SARs); Colombia; Costa Rica; Croatia; Denmark; Dominican Republic; Ecuador; Egypt; Ethiopia; Fiji; France; Germany, Fed Republic of; Ghana; Greece; Honduras; Hong Kong (SAR of the PRC); India; Indonesia; Iran; Iraq; Ireland, Republic of; Israel; Italy; Japan; Jordan; Kenya; Korea, South;

	Kuwait; Latvia; Malawi; Malaysia; Mauritius; Mexico; Montenegro; Myanmar; Nauru; Nepal, Netherlands, Kingdom of The; Nigeria; Oman; Pakistan; Palestinian Authority; Papua New Guinea; Paraguay; Philippines; Poland; Portugal, Saudi Arabia; Singapore; Slovakia; Slovenia; South Africa; Spain; Sri Lanka; Sudan; Switzerland; Taiwan; Thailand; Turkey; Uganda; United Kingdom; United States of America; Vietnam
December 2016	Algeria; Austria; Bahrain; Bangladesh; Barbados; Belgium; Bhutan; Brazil; Cambodia; Canada; Chile; China, Peoples Republic of (excl SARs); Colombia; Croatia; Denmark; Egypt; Estonia; Ethiopia; Fiji; France; FYR Macedonia; Germany, Fed Republic of; Ghana; Greece; Hong Kong (SAR of the PRC); Hungary; India; Indonesia; Iran; Iraq; Italy; Japan; Jordan; Kazakhstan; Kenya; Korea, South; Kuwait; Lao Peoples Dem Republic; Lithuania; Malawi; Malaysia; Mauritius; Mexico; Myanmar; Nepal, Netherlands, Kingdom of The; Nigeria; Pakistan; Peru; Philippines; Portugal; Romania; Russian Federation; Samoa; Saudi Arabia; Serbia; Singapore; South Africa; Spain; Sri Lanka; Sudan; Sweden; Syrian Arab Republic; Tanzania; Thailand; Tonga; Turkey; Uganda; Ukraine; United Kingdom; United States of America; Uruguay; Vietnam; Yemen, Republic of; Zimbabwe
January 2017	Argentina; Austria; Bangladesh; Belarus; Belgium; Bhutan; Bolivia; Bosnia and Herzegovina; Botswana; Brazil; Cameroon; Canada; Chile; China, Peoples Republic of (excl SARs); Colombia; Cote d'Ivoire; Denmark; Ecuador; Egypt; Ethiopia; Fiji; Finland; France; FYR Macedonia; Germany, Fed Republic of; Ghana; Grenada; Guatemala; Hong Kong (SAR of the PRC); Hungary; India; Indonesia; Iran; Iraq; Ireland, Republic of; Israel; Italy; Japan; Jordan; Kazakhstan; Kenya; Korea, South; Kuwait; Latvia; Lebanon; Malaysia; Mauritius; Mexico; Mongolia; Myanmar; Nepal, Netherlands, Kingdom of The; Nigeria; Oman; Pakistan; Papua New Guinea; Philippines; Poland; Portugal; Russian Federation; Rwanda; Saudi Arabia; Serbia; Singapore; Slovenia; Spain; Sri Lanka; Sudan; Sweden; Switzerland; Taiwan; Tanzania; Thailand, Tonga; Turkey; Uganda; Ukraine; United Arab Emirates; United Kingdom; United States of America; Uruguay; Uzbekistan; Vietnam; Yemen, Republic of; Zambia; Zimbabwe
February 2017	Afghanistan; Austria; Bangladesh; Belgium; Bhutan; Brazil; Brunei Darussalam; Cambodia; Canada; Chile; China, Peoples Republic of (excl SARs); Colombia; Congo, Dem Republic of the; Cote d'Ivoire; Croatia; Ecuador; Egypt; Estonia; Ethiopia; Fiji; France; Gambia; Germany, Fed Republic of; Ghana; Greece; Guyana; Hong Kong (SAR of the PRC); India; Indonesia; Iran; Iraq; Ireland, Republic of; Israel; Italy; Japan; Jordan; Kenya; Korea, South; Kuwait; Lebanon; Lithuania; Malawi; Malaysia; Maldives; Mauritius; Mexico; Mozambique; Myanmar; Nepal; Netherlands, Kingdom of The; Nigeria; Norway; Oman; Pakistan; Palestinian Authority; Papua New Guinea; Peru; Philippines; Poland; Portugal; Russian Federation; Saudi Arabia; Singapore; South Africa; Spain; Sri Lanka; Sudan Switzerland; Syrian Arab Republic; Taiwan; Thailand; Timor-Leste; Tonga; Uganda; Ukraine; United Arab Emirates; United Kingdom; United States of America; Uzbekistan; Vanuatu; Venezuela; Vietnam; Zambia; Zimbabwe

Table 2: Countries of origin for grant of Student (postgraduate sector) visas by travel document country and month for the period 1 July 2016 to 28 February 2017

Month	Travel document country
July 2016	Algeria; Bangladesh; Belgium; Bhutan; Brazil; Bulgaria; Cambodia; Canada; Chile; China, Peoples Republic of (excl SARs); Colombia; Croatia; Egypt, Estonia; Ethiopia; France; FYR Macedonia; Gambia; Germany, Fed Republic of; Ghana; Hong Kong (SAR of the PRC); Hungary; India; Indonesia; Iran; Iraq; Ireland, Republic of; Italy; Jordan; Kenya; Korea, South; Kuwait; Libya; Malaysia; Mexico; Nepal; Netherlands, Kingdom of The; Nigeria; Oman; Pakistan; Philippines; Poland; Portugal; Russian Federation; Saudi Arabia; Serbia; Singapore; Slovakia; Spain; Sri Lanka; Thailand; Tunisia; Turkey; Uganda; United Kingdom; United States of America; Venezuela; Vietnam
August 2016	Argentina; Armenia; Austria; Bangladesh; Belgium; Brazil; Cambodia; Canada; Chile; China, Peoples Republic of (excl SARs); Colombia; Denmark; Dominican Republic; Egypt; Eritrea; Estonia; Ethiopia; Fiji; France; Gambia; Georgia; Germany, Fed Republic of; Ghana; Grenada; Guyana; Hungary; India; Indonesia; Iran; Iraq; Israel; Italy; Japan; Jordan; Kenya; Korea, South; Kuwait; Lebanon; Libya; Malaysia; Mexico; Myanmar; Nepal; Netherlands, Kingdom of The; Nigeria; Oman; Pakistan; Peru; Philippines; Poland; Portugal; Russian Federation; Saudi Arabia; Serbia; Singapore; South Africa; Spain; Sri Lanka; Sweden; Switzerland; Syrian Arab Republic; Taiwan; Thailand; Turkey, Uganda; Ukraine; United Kingdom; United States of America; Venezuela; Vietnam;
September 2016	Argentina; Austria; Bangladesh; Belgium; Bhutan; Brazil; Cambodia; Cameroon; Canada; Chile; China, Peoples Republic of (excl SARs); Colombia; Croatia; Cyprus; Czech Republic; Ecuador; Egypt; Ethiopia; Fiji; Finland; France; Germany, Fed Republic of; Ghana; Greece; Hong Kong (SAR of the PRC); India; Indonesia; Iran; Iraq; Ireland, Republic of; Italy; Japan; Jordan; Kenya; Korea, South; Lao Peoples Dem Republic; Libya; Malaysia; Mexico; Mongolia; Myanmar; Nepal; Netherlands, Kingdom of The; Nigeria; Norway; Oman; Pakistan; Peru; Philippines; Poland; Romania; Russian Federation; Rwanda; Saudi Arabia; Singapore; Somalia; South Africa; Spain; Sri Lanka; Switzerland; Taiwan; Thailand; Turkey; Uganda; Ukraine; United Kingdom; United States of America; Uruguay; Uzbekistan; Venezuela; Vietnam; Zimbabwe
October 2016	Argentina; Bangladesh, Bhutan; Botswana; Brazil; Cameroon; Canada; Chile; China, Peoples Republic of (excl SARs); Colombia; Croatia; Egypt; Ethiopia; Fiji; France; Germany, Fed Republic of; Ghana; Greece; Hong Kong (SAR of the PRC); India; Indonesia; Iran; Iraq; Ireland, Republic of; Israel; Italy; Japan; Jordan; Kenya; Korea, South; Kuwait; Malawi; Malaysia; Mauritius; Mexico; Mongolia; Myanmar; Nepal; Netherlands, Kingdom of The; Nigeria; Norway; Pakistan; Palestinian Authority; Papua New Guinea; Philippines; Poland; Russian Federation; Saudi Arabia; Serbia; Sierra Leone; Singapore; Solomon Islands; South Africa; Spain; Sri Lanka; Syrian Arab Republic; Taiwan; Tanzania; Thailand; Turkey; Uganda; United Kingdom; United States of America; Vietnam
November 2016	Argentina; Bangladesh; Bhutan; Brazil; Canada; Chile; China, Peoples Republic of (excl SARs); Colombia; Costa Rica; Croatia; Ecuador; Egypt; Ethiopia; Fiji; France; Germany, Fed Republic of; Ghana; Hong Kong (SAR of the PRC); India; Indonesia; Iran; Iraq; Israel; Italy; Jordan; Kenya; Korea, South; Latvia; Libya; Malaysia; Mauritius; Mexico; Montenegro; Morocco; Mozambique; Myanmar; Nepal; Netherlands, Kingdom of The; Nigeria; Norway; Oman; Pakistan; Papua New Guinea; Philippines; Poland; Portugal; Russian

	Federation; Saudi Arabia; Singapore; Slovenia; Spain; Sri Lanka; Switzerland; Syrian Arab Republic; Taiwan; Thailand; Uganda; United Kingdom; United States of America; Vietnam; Zimbabwe
December 2016	Bangladesh; Bhutan; Brazil; Canada; Chile; China, Peoples Republic of (excl SARs); Colombia; Croatia; Denmark; Ecuador; Egypt; Ethiopia; Fiji; France; Germany, Fed Republic of; Ghana; Greece; Hong Kong (SAR of the PRC); Hungary; India; Indonesia; Iran; Iraq; Ireland, Republic of; Israel; Italy; Japan; Jordan; Kenya; Korea, South; Kuwait; Lao Peoples Dem Republic; Malaysia; Mauritius; Mexico; Myanmar; Nepal; Netherlands; Kingdom of The; Nigeria; Oman; Pakistan; Papua New Guinea; Paraguay; Peru; Russian Federation; Saudi Arabia; Serbia; Singapore; Slovakia; South Africa; Spain; Sri Lanka; Sudan; Sweden; Taiwan; Tanzania; Thailand; Turkey; Uganda; United Kingdom; United States of America; Vietnam
January 2017	Argentina; Austria; Bahrain; Bangladesh; Barbados; Belgium; Brazil; Cambodia; Canada; Chile; China, Peoples Republic of (excl SARs); Colombia; Croatia; Denmark; Ecuador; Egypt; Ethiopia; Fiji; Finland; France; FYR Macedonia; Germany, Fed Republic of; Ghana; Hong Kong (SAR of the PRC); Hungary; India; Indonesia; Iran; Iraq; Ireland, Republic of; Israel; Italy; Japan; Jordan; Kazakhstan; Kenya; Korea, South; Kuwait; Lithuania; Malaysia; Mexico; Mongolia; Myanmar; Nauru; Nepal; Netherlands, Kingdom of The; Nigeria; Oman; Pakistan; Papua New Guinea; Peru; Philippines; Portugal; Romania; Russian Federation; Samoa; Saudi Arabia; Serbia; Singapore; South Africa; Spain; Sri Lanka; Sweden; Switzerland; Taiwan; Thailand; Tonga; Turkey; Uganda; Ukraine; United Kingdom; United States of America; Uruguay; Vietnam; Zambia; Zimbabwe
February 2017	Austria; Bangladesh; Belarus; Belgium; Belize; Bhutan; Bosnia and Herzegovina; Botswana; Brazil; Cambodia; Cameroon; Canada; Chile, China, Peoples Republic of (excl SARs); Colombia; Congo, Dem Republic of the; Cote d'Ivoire; Croatia; Denmark; Dominican Republic; Ecuador; Egypt; Eritrea; Estonia; Ethiopia; France; Germany, Fed Republic of; Ghana; Greece; Grenada; Honduras; Hong Kong (SAR of the PRC); Hungary; India; Indonesia; Iran; Iraq; Ireland, Republic of; Israel; Italy; Japan; Jordan; Kazakhstan; Kenya; Korea, South; Kuwait; Latvia; Lebanon; Libya; Malawi; Malaysia; Mauritius; Mexico; Mongolia; Myanmar; Nepal; Netherlands, Kingdom of The; Nigeria; Norway; Oman; Pakistan; Palestinian Authority; Peru; Philippines; Poland; Portugal; Russia Federation; Rwanda; Saudi Arabia; Sierra Leone; Singapore; Slovenia; South Africa; Spain; Sri Lanka; Sweden; Switzerland; Syrian Arab Republic; Taiwan; Tanzania; Thailand; Timor-Leste; Tonga; Turkey; Uganda; Ukraine; United Arab Emirates; United Kingdom; United States of America; Vietnam; Yemen, Republic of, Republic of; Zimbabwe

Table 3: Median processing times for Student (postgraduate sector) visas by month for 2015, 2016 and 2017 compared with other sectors

Financial Year	Month	Sector	50th Percentile (Calendar Days)
2015-16	Jul	Foreign Affairs or Defence Sector	7
		Higher Education Sector	16
		Independent ELICOS Sector	17
		Non-Award Sector	9
		Postgraduate Research Sector	20
		Schools Sector	17
		Vocational Education and Training Sector	23
	Aug	Foreign Affairs or Defence Sector	11
		Higher Education Sector	13
		Independent ELICOS Sector	16
		Non-Award Sector	14
		Postgraduate Research Sector	27
		Schools Sector	20
		Vocational Education and Training Sector	18
	Sep	Foreign Affairs or Defence Sector	12
		Higher Education Sector	15
		Independent ELICOS Sector	16
		Non-Award Sector	15
		Postgraduate Research Sector	29
		Schools Sector	16
		Vocational Education and Training Sector	20
	Oct	Foreign Affairs or Defence Sector	9
		Higher Education Sector	25
		Independent ELICOS Sector	16
		Non-Award Sector	9
		Postgraduate Research Sector	43
		Schools Sector	21
		Vocational Education and Training Sector	26
	Nov	Foreign Affairs or Defence Sector	6
		Higher Education Sector	15
		Independent ELICOS Sector	16
		Non-Award Sector	0
		Postgraduate Research Sector	29
		Schools Sector	15
		Vocational Education and Training Sector	23
	Dec	Foreign Affairs or Defence Sector	12
		Higher Education Sector	12
		Independent ELICOS Sector	14
		Non-Award Sector	0
		Postgraduate Research Sector	18
		Schools Sector	11
		Vocational Education and Training Sector	18
	Jan	Foreign Affairs or Defence Sector	14
		Higher Education Sector	14
		Independent ELICOS Sector	17
		Non-Award Sector	0
		Postgraduate Research Sector	18

		Schools Sector	23
		Vocational Education and Training Sector	25
Feb		Foreign Affairs or Defence Sector	5
		Higher Education Sector	13
		Independent ELICOS Sector	16
		Non-Award Sector	3
		Postgraduate Research Sector	20
		Schools Sector	25
		Vocational Education and Training Sector	23
Mar		Foreign Affairs or Defence Sector	6
		Higher Education Sector	15
		Independent ELICOS Sector	19
		Non-Award Sector	1
		Postgraduate Research Sector	20
		Schools Sector	21
		Vocational Education and Training Sector	17
Apr		Foreign Affairs or Defence Sector	7
		Higher Education Sector	24
		Independent ELICOS Sector	21
		Non-Award Sector	0
		Postgraduate Research Sector	24
		Schools Sector	17
		Vocational Education and Training Sector	23
May		Foreign Affairs or Defence Sector	7
		Higher Education Sector	17
		Independent ELICOS Sector	20
		Non-Award Sector	0
		Postgraduate Research Sector	24
		Schools Sector	18
		Vocational Education and Training Sector	24
Jun		Foreign Affairs or Defence Sector	5
		Higher Education Sector	13
		Independent ELICOS Sector	12
		Non-Award Sector	0
		Postgraduate Research Sector	17
		Schools Sector	16
		Vocational Education and Training Sector	15
2016-17 to 28/02/17	Jul	Foreign Affairs or Defence Sector	9
		Higher Education Sector	20
		Independent ELICOS Sector	28
		Non-Award Sector	16
		Postgraduate Research Sector	35
		Schools Sector	28
		Vocational Education and Training Sector	31
Aug		Foreign Affairs or Defence Sector	7
		Higher Education Sector	29
		Independent ELICOS Sector	28
		Non-Award Sector	20
		Postgraduate Research Sector	25
		Schools Sector	42
		Vocational Education and Training Sector	35
Sep		Foreign Affairs or Defence Sector	9

	Higher Education Sector	22
	Independent ELICOS Sector	30
	Non-Award Sector	20
	Postgraduate Research Sector	30
	Schools Sector	27
	Vocational Education and Training Sector	26
Oct	Foreign Affairs or Defence Sector	11
	Higher Education Sector	23
	Independent ELICOS Sector	27
	Non-Award Sector	3
	Postgraduate Research Sector	45
	Schools Sector	20
	Vocational Education and Training Sector	20
Nov	Foreign Affairs or Defence Sector	14
	Higher Education Sector	13
	Independent ELICOS Sector	21
	Non-Award Sector	1
	Postgraduate Research Sector	30
	Schools Sector	14
	Vocational Education and Training Sector	15
Dec	Foreign Affairs or Defence Sector	7
	Higher Education Sector	12
	Independent ELICOS Sector	21
	Non-Award Sector	2
	Postgraduate Research Sector	30
	Schools Sector	18
	Vocational Education and Training Sector	16
Jan	Foreign Affairs or Defence Sector	7
	Higher Education Sector	14
	Independent ELICOS Sector	33
	Non-Award Sector	8
	Postgraduate Research Sector	22
	Schools Sector	27
	Vocational Education and Training Sector	24
Feb	Foreign Affairs or Defence Sector	6
	Higher Education Sector	14
	Independent ELICOS Sector	27
	Non-Award Sector	18
	Postgraduate Research Sector	22
	Schools Sector	27
	Vocational Education and Training Sector	18
